GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2938
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2005
SEEDHI PRATHA
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Shukla Smt. Karuna

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tradition of 'Seedhi Pratha' which means bonded labour is prevalent in the State of Haryana;

(b) if so, the name of the districts where it is practiced;

(c) whether the National Commission for Women has highlighted the problem and made any recommendation to the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government on the recommendations of National Commission for Women?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH)

(a),(b),(c)&(d) The National Commission for Women (NCW) in its report titled 'A Situational Analysis of Women and Girls in Haryana' has stated that a tradition called 'Seedhi Pratha' (which implies bonded labour) is prevalent in the Districts of Jind, Rohtak and Hissar of Haryana. No specific recommendation has been made by the Commission in this regard. However, the Government of Haryana has denied existence of the tradition of Seedhi Pratha in any district of the State.